



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

— *Lee Holloway* —
Chairman of the Board

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Harold Mester, Public Information Manager

414/278-4051 or harold.mester@milwcnty.com

STATEMENT ON SCOTT WALKER'S ACCEPTANCE OF STIMULUS FUNDS

County Executive reverses course, champions acceptance of stimulus funds for bus purchases

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway released the following statement in response to the County Executive's apparent decision to accept federal stimulus funds for bus purchases in Milwaukee County. According to this morning's *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, the County Executive indicated that the County can get through 2011 without a major funding crisis in transit funding thanks to an infusion of federal stimulus funds to be used to purchase new buses.

"Earlier this year, the County Executive criticized the County Board for seeking stimulus dollars for a wide range of purposes, including mass transit. The County Executive claimed he would not accept stimulus funds unless they met his three-point criteria. One of those requirements was, 'Expenditure of requested funds will not obligate Milwaukee County to future operating or maintenance expenses.' Well, things have apparently changed in the County Executive's mind," Chairman Holloway said. "The buses to be purchased with stimulus dollars will certainly violate the County Executive's earlier criteria due to the ongoing operating maintenance costs that will be required."

"Either the County Executive has abandoned his earlier flawed rhetoric on this issue, or he never really meant what he said in the first place," Chairman Holloway added. "Either way, it's great news that these federal stimulus dollars will help Milwaukee County replace some of our aging transit fleet. I am pleased that the County Board won't have to battle the County Executive yet again to accept these funds. It only makes sense that Milwaukee County should get a better return on the federal taxes we all pay. Every stimulus dollar we receive helps offset our overall tax burden in Milwaukee County."

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